designate to India has said that India's inclusion for permanent membership of the Security Council would "undermine the cohesion" of the World body; and

(b) if so, whether Government consider this as a constructive remark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) During the confirmation hearings in the Near East and South Asia Sub-Committee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the US Ambassador-designate to India stated that it would be important to first assess the overall circumstances before looking at further expansion to include important countries other than Germany and Japan. lie further stressed that the need to maintain cohesion of the UN security Council as a functional body would be an important consideration in this regard.

(b) Government have noted these remarks by the US Ambassdor-designate to India. Government have also taken note of President Clinton's response to a question at the joint press conference during Prime Minister's visit, that the US position on other countries participating in the UN Security Council in a capacity similar to that envisaged by the US for Japan and Germany was an issue on which the thought US should keep an open mind.

Assessment About PM's Visit to US

7680. SHRI G.G. SWELL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an assessment has been made of the impact of the Prime Minister's visit to the USA;

(b) how many Senators and Congressmen attended the Joint Session of Congress addressed by the Prime Minister; and

(c) whether the visit received good coverage by the American media?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) It has been ascertained from Congressional officials that around 100 members of the Congress were in the Chamber in addition to Senior House Staffers who enjoy Floor privileges, members of the US Supreme Court, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and over 100 members of the Diplomatic Corps.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Detention of Indian Workers in Thailand

7681. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been indiscriminate detention of Indian workers in Thailand in the past fortnight, as reported in the Economic Times dated 9 May, 1994;

(b) whether this detention is a part of Thai authorities compaign to weed-out illegal immigrants and whether the Indian community forms a major share; and

(c) whether the Indian Embassy in Bangkok has taken stock of the situation and if so, what steps are being taken to protect Indian workers from inhuman treatment in Thai lock-ups and possible deportation to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Thai immigration authorities mounted a crackdown on illegal immigrants working in Thailand without work permits from the third week of April, 1994. According to Immigration authorities, about 50,000 illegal immigrants are working without work permits from South Asian countries. The illegal immigrants are picked up without any particular country or community being targetted and ordered to be deported.

(c) Out of 1216 Indian nationals arrested, 1115 have already been